## Reading the Bible for Mastery

Just how do you go about mastering the Bible? Reading it is one thing; mastering it is another. At CIB we teach students how to Read the Bible for Mastery in their daily devotions. It's simple! Let us show you how to start small, get you going, and then you take from here.

- 1. Read 1, 2, 3 John (KNOWING YOU ARE SAVED) every day for 30 days; this should take you 15-20 minutes. It will read differently to you by the end of the month. We define "every day" as 5-6 days per week. Follow this with reading Colossians (KNOWING YOU ARE COMPLETE IN CHRIST) the same way. Then Galatians (KNOWING YOU HAVE THE TRUE GOSPEL), Philippians (KNOWING MATURE JOY IN CHRIST), etc. There is a reason for these particular selected books. Then add a Gospel (we recommend John) at 4 or 5 chapters for each 30 day section. In 2 1/2 to 3 years you will have Mastered the New Testament; and what's more, hopefully the New Testament of God will have Mastered you! You might wish to finish the New Testament first and then move to the Old Testament.
- 2. A second way to read is simply read the same texts as above for two weeks at a time. This will move you more quickly through the entire Bible. The point here is that doing it again and again equals education. We learn by repeating an activity.
- 3. A third way is to simply read 4-5 chapters daily and you will read through the Bible in a year. This will provide you with a framework in which to learn; and NO . . . reading through the Bible once does not mean you are yet a Bible Expert.
- 4. A fourth item to be added here is:
- A pencil is better than your eyes. Draw what you see, circle it, underline it, add a thought. What do you see with the pencil? Thirty days of reading will cause your pencil to come alive for you. Do you see commands? Repeated words or phrases? Promises for you to claim? Claim them!
- A Bible Dictionary is invaluable. You simply must find out what a word means on your first or second reading. Don't assume! A good Bible Dictionary, will give you some basic background on any book or item in the book.
- A Concordance is handy to find a word or passage that you wish you could remember. It will often define the word for you as well.